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**COMMITTEES:**

Judiciary, Chairman  
Higher Education, Vice Chairman  
Ethics  
Appropriations  
Banking and Financial Institutions

**The State Senate**  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

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**TO: MEMBERS OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

**Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), *Vice-Chairman***  
**Sen. Timothy Bearden (30th), *Secretary***  
**Sen. Bo Hatchett (50th), *Subcommittee***  
***Chairman***  
**Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)**  
**Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd)**

**Sen. Elena Parent (44th)**  
**Sen. Michael Rhetts (33rd)**  
**Sen. Shawn Still (48th)**  
**Sen. Blake Tillery (19th)**  
**Sen. Ben Watson (1st)**  
**Sen. Steven McNeal (18th)**

**FROM: Senator Brian Strickland, (42nd), *Chairman***  
**SUBJECT: Judiciary Committee Hearing Notice**

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**DATE: Thursday, March 19, 2026**

**TIME: 4:00 PM**

**PLACE: 307 CLOB**

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**AGENDA:**

- **HB 304 (Rep. Bill Yearta, 152nd, LC 47 4248S)** Local government; Georgia Municipal Court Clerks' Council; create.
- **HB 447 (Rep. Joseph Gullett, 19th, LC 48 1574S)** Crimes and offenses; crimes of gift card theft, gift card forgery, and gift card fraud; provide.
- **HB 460 (Rep. Esther Panitch, 51st, LC 48 1499S)** Evidence; exclude certain communications made between attorney and client when client is in a penal institution.
- **HB 676 (Rep. Rob Clifton, 131st, LC 48 1510)** Property; fine for any frivolous mechanical lien filed; provide.
- **HB 1185 (Rep. Chuck Efstoration, 104th, LC 62 0291-EC)** Courts; certain shareholder claims to be brought before the Georgia State-wide Business Court; provide.
- **HB 1247 (Rep. Matt Reeves, 99th, LC 59 0444S)** Georgia Bureaucratic Deference Elimination Act; enact.
- **HB 1290 (Rep. Scott Hilton, 48th, LC 48 1704)** Crimes and offenses; protection of elder persons; sexual abuse; revise definition.
- **HB 267 (Rep. Josh Bonner, 73rd, LC 39 5081S)** Riley Gaines Act; enact.

**\*\* *The Chairman reserves the right to change the agenda.* \*\***

**cc:**

Honorable Burt Jones, Lt. Governor  
Sen Larry Walker III, President Pro Tempore  
Sen. Steve Gooch, Majority Leader  
Sen. Harold Jones, Minority Leader  
Reaganne Hart, Governor's Office  
Brad Vaughn, Lt. Governor's Office

James Tripp, Secretary of the Senate  
Hayley Williams, OPLA  
Colin Marcum, OPLA  
Brent Churchwell, Senate Budget Office  
Evan Bergwall, Senate Press Office  
Betsey Howerton, Legislative Counsel